

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0030] with the following amended paragraph [0030]:

[0030] FIGS. 5a-5d illustrate a sequence of steps that may be employed, pursuant to which the removable protective barrier is a consumable barrier. In FIG. 5a there is shown an assembly 310, that includes a resonator 312 having tines defining a free portion [2]314. The resonator sits on a platform 318. In FIG. 5b, a consumable barrier layer 350 is applied over the resonator of the assembly of FIG. 5a. In the step depicted in FIG. 5c, a protective layer 328 is applied over the consumable barrier layer 350. In FIG. 5d, the consumable layer has been removed[.] [L]leaving the protective layer 328 in spaced relation from the resonator 312.

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph [0034]:

[0034] According to FIG. 6c, the resonator 412 is placed in the trench so that the free portion projects away from the first layer 462. Though it may be possible to mechanically fasten the resonator into the trench, or to adhesively bond it in place, FIG. 6d illustrates the placement of a second layer 465[4] over at least a portion of the first layer 462. The second layer may be fabricated on the first layer using any suitable technique such as attaching a preformed layer, such as by laminating with or without an adhesive, plating, physical vapor deposition, chemical vapor deposition, plasma deposition, coating, spraying, or the like. At this point the multi-layer holder 460 is complete and may be implemented into a further assembly. In FIG. 6e, there is shown one illustration of how the holder 460 may be incorporated into a further assembly, such as by attachment (e.g., via welding, adhesive bonding, wire bonding or the like). In the embodiment of FIG. 6e, a shield device 466 is fabricated to include a protective shield for the free portion of the resonator, while still maintaining the free portion 414 exposed for sensing. Thus, a lower portion 468 is assembled with an upper portion 470 about the resonator 412. Either or both of the lower portion 468 or the upper portion 470 may include a window that

exposes the free end for sensing. The lower portion 468, the upper portion 470 or both may be pre-fabricated to include a suitable cavity 472 for receiving the resonator. The lower portion 468 and the upper portion 470 might also be fabricated separately, or as a single unit (e.g., as a molded plastic clam-shell type package). Though shown in FIG. 6e as being carried by a common platform 412, the holder 460 and shield device 466 may be maintained upon separate support surfaces.